HSSCO ANNUAL STATE PROFILE REPORT 2005 Activities lowa

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A. Briefly describe your accomplishments in the following areas. Where possible, indicate the goals from your work plan and the desired and actual outcomes.

1. Help build early childhood systems and access to comprehensive services for all low-income children. (Include a how you are supporting Head Start-child care-pre-kindergarten collaborations at the local level, as well as your efforts to involve Head Start programs in State pre-kindergarten initiatives.)

1. Desired Outcome (from 2004-05 work plan): Support the Work of the Early Childhood Iowa "stakeholders" (ECI) in comprehensive system development with an emphasis on increasing access to services for young children (health, education, family support, child care).

2005 Action Plans

2005 Accomplishments

- ◆ Continue to participate and support the system development work of the ECI stakeholders.
- Provide more participation by families of low income.
- Emphasize access to comprehensive services by families of low income.
- ◆ Implement system change agenda developed through individual leadership plan

- ♦ Iowa HSSCO served as a co-chair of the Governance, Planning and Administration System Component group, and as a member of the coordinating co-chairs group in planning work of Early Childhood Iowa. This group's work encompasses the HRSA-funded Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Grant. ECI developed a strategic plan that has been endorsed by 65 early childhood organizations, councils, associations and groups in Iowa.
- ◆ The Governance Group developed formal operating guidelines that delineate roles and responsibilities for all six component groups and the coordinating role of the co-chairs group. The group created a membership process for ECI, expanded its own membership and supported a systems results survey to determine progress on system development. The group helped facilitate new member orientation sessions.
- ♦ Iowa HSSCO emphasis was on laying an important foundation for progress in expanding participation to low income parents, pushing for a comprehensive approach to services for families and other elements of the leadership change agenda.
- ♦ Iowa HSSCO participated in the Early Childhood Coordinated Leadership effort to work on consolidating efforts among a variety of early childhood councils, commissions and committees.

Additional efforts* to support Head Start-child care-pre-kindergarten local collaborations:

- Worked with a school district and Head Start grantee to develop a new Head Start classroom in a newly remodeled district-owned building.
- Worked through conflict issues between a local provider of Part C services and an Early Head Start program.
- Visited 6 school districts to across the state to discuss collaboration barriers and opportunities with Head Start.
- Co-sponsored mathematics training with state-funded at-risk preschool and Head Start

Efforts to involve Head Start programs in State pre-kindergarten initiatives:

- Worked with the State Empowerment team to provide guidance so Head Start programs would be eligible to use new preschool scholarship dollars to fund over-income eligible families.
- ♦ Worked with both the Iowa Head Start Association and the Iowa Community Action Association (ICAA) to establish a common advocacy agenda that included a call for integrating Head Start into a pre-kindergarten initiative supported by the Iowa Department of Education and the Governor's office.
- Provided opportunities for the Iowa Head Start Association to participate in shaping and supporting the state's pre-K effort, including supporting a Head Start director to testify before a state legislative committee.
- Supported recognition that Head Start is directly contributing to the governor's early childhood success indicator. The Governor's Leadership Plan calls for an increase in the percentage of children ages 3 and 4 who have a preschool experience in a quality setting. Half of the children counted are those who attend Head Start.
- 2. Encourage widespread collaboration between Head Start and other appropriate programs. Describe your accomplishments and outcomes in the eight priority areas.

HEALTH CARE

- **2.** *Desired Outcome* (*from 2004-05 work plan*): Strengthened partnerships between Head Start programs and other entities such as: ... public health....
- + Partnerships are fostered at both the state and local level.
- + Stronger partnerships should result in more shared training, fewer barriers to collaboration and more opportunities to blend services across programs.

2005 Action Plans 2005 Accomplishments ♦ Partnership development Collaborations with Public Health plans will be produced that Convened a meeting with the Healthy Child Care Iowa (HCCI) coordinator and developed an action plan for partnership development. include: Met monthly with the Child Health Advocacy Team of the Iowa - Public Heath Department of Public Health, presenting reports on Head Start ♦ Statewide plans will be activities and receiving regular updates on state activities among developed in conjunction mental health, Healthy Child Care Iowa, Early Hearing Detection with IHSA that will /Intervention, Lead Screening, Oral Health, WIC and Nutrition, harness state resources to EPSDT among other topics. Distributed early childhood health information from Iowa Department help grantees improve of Public Health (IDPH) and other sources to Head Start health results on the performance specialists. indicators. Promoted HCCI-sponsored trainings among H.S. health specialists.

4. Desired Outcome(from 2004-05 work plan): Support IHSA and the Head Start TA system in helping Iowa Head Start grantees to improve results on...dental screening,

2005 Action	2005 Accomplishments	
Plans		
♦ Work	◆ The Head Start/Early Head Start Oral Health Work Group implemented the	
with the	Healthy Smiles initiative. The project achieved its main objectives (actual	
Oral	accomplishments in parentheses):	
Health	1) Develop 17 mini-modules or oral health training materials for home visitors	
Work	to use with parents, including a 4-color flip chart;	
team to	2) Trained 600 family workers and partner staff	
increase	3) Created EHS/Head Start Child Outcome Documentation System. Data	

^{*}Efforts to foster collaboration with child care is discussed below under #2.)

dental screening

- reflect significant changes in parent oral health behavior (percentages of parents who respond, "yes."):
- Can parents identify three causes of cavities? (Increased 11%: pre 80% vs. post 91%)
- Do parents conduct "Lift the Lip" screening monthly? (Increased 32%: 36% vs. 91%)
- Does the child receive fluoride varnish treatments? (Increased 8%: 46% vs. 54%)
- Do parents clean/brush child's teeth morning and night? (Increased 10%: 83% vs. 73%)
- Does family practice appropriate nursing/bottle feeding? (Increased 4%: 85% vs. 81%)
- Promoted 5 oral health protocols developed with Iowa's Oral Health Bureau with H.S. health specialists and in Community Empowerment Newsletter.
- Created 500 oral health information packets and arranged for workshop presentations at four sub-state regional child care conferences.

WELFARE

4. Desired Outcome(from 2004-05 work plan): Support IHSA and the Head Start TA system in helping Iowa Head Start grantees to improve results on...enrollment...and other federal priorities (e.g...welfare reform)

2005 Action Plans

- ♦ Develop mechanisms that assist Head Start programs to enroll more children who are in the state's foster care system.
- ♦ Identify breakdowns, if any, in Head Start referral sources (e.g., FIP, TANF, Medicaid, etc.) with Head Start, and make plans to address them.

2005 Accomplishments

- ♦ New MOA between Iowa Department of Education and Iowa Department of Human Services will initiate new information sharing when children are placed in foster care.
- ♦ Determined that Iowa programs had access to FIP (Family Independence Program) families for recruitment potential.

CHILD CARE

2. Desired Outcome (from 2004-05 work plan): Strengthened partnerships between Head Start programs and other entities such as: child care....

2005 Action Plans 2005 Accomplishments

- ♦ Partnership development plans will be produced that include:
 - Child Care

2005 Action Plans

- ♦ Collaborations with Child Care:
 - Appointed to the State Child Care Advisory Council; served on executive committee.
 - Convened and facilitated an agreement with DHS to make family-friendly recommendations in child care assistance policy.
 - Pursued an agenda to increase number of Head Start families participating in subsidy. (Number of families participating has increased 10 percent since 2001-2002 year.)
 - Increased by 20% number child care wrap-around grants received by Head Start.
 - Secured a funding commitment for a state-funded EHS pilot expansion.

EDUCATION

- 2. Desired Outcome (from 2004-05 work plan): Strengthened partnerships between Head Start programs and other entities such as...public schools....
- Partnerships are fostered at both the state and local level.
- Stronger partnerships should result in more shared training, fewer barriers to collaboration and more opportunities to blend services across programs.

♦ Partnership development plans will be produced that include: - Public Schools

♦ Work with Iowa Dept. of Education's Early Learning Work Team to implement

2005 Accomplishments

- Partnership Development with Public Schools
 - See comments in Question 1 above.
- ♦ Iowa HSSCO helped develop the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (IQPPS) implementation plan with Iowa Department of Education's Early Learning Work

recently developed Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards within LEAs. Team. Sent IQPPS information to all Iowa Head Start agencies. Several attended introductory training on the standards and a self-assessment. Presented information at an IHSA Council meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

2. *Desired Outcome* (*from 2004-05 work plan*): Strengthened partnerships between Head Start programs and other entities such as:...community empowerment...and FaDSS programs.

2005 Action Plans 2005 Accomplishments ♦ Partnership ♦ Collaborations with Iowa Community Empowerment: development Encouraged Head Start representatives to serve on state/local Empowerment boards. Supported collaborations between local Community Empowerment Areas (CEAs) plans will be and Head Start agencies. In 2004, produced that o 19% (11 of 58) of CEAs were purchasing additional slots in Head Start include: preschools for over-income or wait-listed children -Iowa Community o 7% (4) of CEAs had launched or maintained a joint classroom with Head Start Empowerment o 41% (24) of CEAs provided a variety of services (e.g., transportation, literacy, etc.), supporting Head Start children and families o 22% (13) of CEAs provided funding to expand the Head Start day or year o 34% (20) of CEAs reported Head Start as a partner in area-wide collaborations for children (an increase of 17 CEAs or 567% from 2003) Nine CEAs (16%) spent \$542,373 (8% of CEA Early Childhood funds) on services linked to Head Start, an 20% increase over 2003. Supported various Empowerment/Head Start conversations and collaborations, one resulting in a new classroom opening with support from Empowerment. FaDSS ♦ Collaborations with Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) Program. FaDSS is a state-funded program to help families on welfare achieve self-sufficiency and family stability. (See Question B.2) Continued to serve on the FaDSS Council as the Department of Education representative. Named as chair of the Council in 2005. Hosted with IHSA methamphetamine safety training for Head Start and FaDSS

FAMILY LITERACY SERVICES

Desired Outcome (from 2004-05 work plan): Support IHSA and the Head Start TA system in helping Iowa Head Start grantees to improve results on... other federal priorities (e.g., ... literacy...)

workers.

2005 Action Plans

LITERACY

- ◆ Continue support and T/A to DE's Every Child Reads: 3-5 initiative; connect it to Head Start literacy efforts.
- ♦ Continue support for parenting literacy through First Book in Iowa, emphasizing its connections to Every Child Reads.

2005 Accomplishments

- ◆ Invited Head Start literacy specialist to participate in launch of the new state literacy curriculum. Each grantee received material. Hosted with TA Network specialists a networking session among Head Start literacy specialists to discuss implementation and additional supports needed.
- ◆ Supported family literacy through Iowa Public Television's Book Clubs. Project's output with Head Start, included:
 - 8 HS grantees participating (up 14% from 7 grantees last year)
 - 23 total Head Start sites participating (up 28% from 18 last year)
 - 171 total sessions conducted at Head Start sites (up 69% from 101 last year)
 - 1866 adults and 2689 children (duplicated) attended sessions (adults up 69% from 1102 last year; children up 28% from 1102)
 - 1865 books distributed at sessions (up 32% from 1410 last year)

SERVICES TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES				
Desired Outcome (from 2004-05 work plan): Strengthened partnerships between Head Start				
programs and other entities such as: early childhood special education				
2005 Action Plans	2005 Accomplishments			
 ◆ Partnership development plans will be produced that include: – ECSE. 	 ◆ Collaborations with Early Childhood Special Education Participated in cross-agency state team to improve inclusive opportunities for young children with disabilities. Iowa HSSCO supported plan development and implementation, and its alignment Iowa's IDEA State Performance Plan. The plan focuses on increasing the numbers served in least restricted environments. Arranged for the state ECSE point person from the Iowa Department of Education to discuss IDEA six-year plan with IHSA Council. Conducted analysis of PIR data shows the percentage of children with disabilities served by Iowa remains consistent at 13 percent. Approximately 20 percent of preschool children with disabilities who are being served under IDEA are enrolled in Head Start programs. Both figures echo national data. 			

SERVICES TO HOMELESS CHILDREN AND FAMILIES			
Desired Outcome (from 2004-05 work plan): Support IHSA and the Head Start TA system in			
helping Iowa Head Start grantees to improve results onenrollment)			
2005 Action Plans	2005 Accomplishments		
◆ Develop mechanisms that assist Head Start programs to enroll more	♦ No activity.		

3. Facilitate Head Start's involvement in the development of state policies, plans, processes and decisions.

Iowa HSSCO ensured Head Start representation on state boards, council and committees (besides the HSSCO itself), and provided opportunities for state leaders to meet with Head Start representatives. In 2005, Iowa HSSCO expanded or maintained Head Start representation on the following groups:

- Newly established in 2005: Co-chairs Group (ECI)
- ♦ Maintained:

Child Development Coordinating Council

Early Childhood Iowa Stakeholders (broad system development; ECCS Grant Oversight)

- ♦ Quality Services and Programs
- ♦ Results Accountability
- ◆ Professional Development
- ♦ Public Engagement

Head Start/Early Head Start Oral Health Work Group

HSSCO Management Team

Iowa Apprenticeship/TEACH Advisory Committee

Iowa Child Care and Early Education

NetWork Board of Directors Iowa Early Care, Health and Education

Congress Planning Committee

Iowa Early Learning Standards

- ♦ Stakeholders Group
- ◆ Infant and Toddler Writing Committee
- ◆ Preschool Writing Committee

Natural Allies

Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers Advisory Committee

State Child Care Advisory Committee

Iowa HSSCO facilitated meetings between Head Start and the Directors of the Iowa Departments of Education and Human Rights, state methamphetamine specialists, and Part B specialists to discuss IDEA reauthorization.

B. Briefly discuss the following aspects of your work:

1. Describe how you have supported and collaborated with the Regional Office on ACF priorities (e.g. Fatherhood, Faith Based and Community, Healthy Marriage, Youth and Rural Initiatives), Regional priorities, TA Network, professional development, legislation, CAP Agencies, Head Start Association, and other activities.

Iowa HSSCO involved TA Network in all information exchanges, meetings, trainings and local collaboration issues. Met monthly with the TA Network Director for Region VII.

Iowa HSSCO published a directory of all Iowa early childhood programs at institutions of higher education programs and distributed to Head Start grantees and early childhood stakeholders, and placed on IHSA website. It also published the first-ever annual professional development directory, and supported IHSA's Education Committee to offer a several training events including monthly networking sessions.

Legislation: Iowa HSSCO brought together ICAA and IHSA to develop a joint advocacy agenda and later to be part of a guiding coalition to support new state new pre-K.

Collaborations with Community Action Agencies included activities conducted under the supplemental HSSCO funding. The grant improved collaboration between ICAA and IHSA) by engaging in three projects: 1) creating responsive T/TA services for CAP agencies; 2) launching an anti-poverty initiative; 3) creating a joint advocacy agenda.

Iowa HSSCO worked closely with the Iowa Head Start Association, attending all IHSA meetings; creating a comprehensive data base of all key Head Start specialists to target communication in areas of health, disabilities, training, literacy, finance, transportation, early childhood education, etc.; developing and publishing an annual report and related presentation materials, convening and facilitating a strategic planning retreat for IHSA.

2. Describe one new partnership or unique activity with an existing partnership developed during the year and the results of that activity.

Collaboration between FaDSS and Head Start: after creating an action agenda around co-training opportunities, information sharing and cross-referrals, blended programming, Iowa HSSCO encouraged participation by Head Start family support workers in Iowa Family Development Association activities, outlined collaboration and partnership options in a joint memo and hosted a joint networking session. Results have been closer working arrangements and joint working plans in more than a third of Head Start grantees.

C. Briefly describe your efforts to support the coordination of Head Start to Hispanic children and families in your State.

Iowa HSSCO has: 1) organized and hosted a one-day seminar on improving service to Latino families; and 2) arranged and facilitated a panel discussion of bilingual early childhood teachers, including some from Head Start classrooms; 3) began planning for a 2006 training for teachers to address the needs of ELL children.

D. Based on your responses to the questions above, how does that information your work plan or focus for the current or coming year?

- 1. Build on in partnership development successes between Head Start and child care, community empowerment, public schools, early childhood special education, public health, community action agencies and FaDSS.
- 2. Work to develop statewide support for fatherhood/healthy marriage intiatives and other ACF priorities.
- 3. Support IHSA and TA Network to improve results on performance indicators and other federal priorities.
- 4. As new five year plan is written, connect the plan with the ECCS Grant work and use my leadership position among Early Childhood Iowa to help bring these efforts into alignment.